Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension - Azusa to Montclair
Scoping Meetings
January 2011
Purpose of Tonight’s Meeting

- Present a Project Overview
- Explain the Environmental Review Process and Purpose of Public Scoping Phase
- Provide an Opportunity for the Public to Ask Questions and Submit Comments
Meeting Schedule

- **6:15 - 7:00 p.m.** – Presentation and Opportunity for Comments/Questions
- **7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** – Open House (talk one-on-one with project staff)

**3 Ways to Provide Comments for the Record:**
- Fill out a speaker card and speak during Q&A
- Complete a comment sheet
- Provide your comments to the court reporter
Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension - Azusa to Montclair

- 12.6 miles, 6 cities, 6 stations
- Two new grade-separated crossings to align light rail and freight tracks (at Lone Hill Ave - Glendora and Towne Ave - Pomona)
- Shared corridor (freight throughout, Metrolink from La Verne east)
- Partially funded through Measure R/needs additional funding
Project History

- **1999:** Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority created
  - SB1847 provided necessary powers to complete the project from Union Station to the LA County line
- **2003:** Alternatives Analysis initiated for Pasadena to Montclair segments
- **2004:** Circulated Pasadena to Montclair Draft EIS/EIR (selected LPA)
- **2005:** Board selected revised LPA
- **2007:** Pasadena to Montclair Final EIR completed/FEIR certified for Pasadena to Azusa only
- **2008:** Measure R approved, fully funding Pasadena to Azusa
- **2010:** ‘Fresh’ environmental review (EIS/EIR) for Azusa to Montclair initiated
  - NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act
    - Federal Transit Administration (Lead Agency)
  - CEQA – California Environmental Quality Act
    - Construction Authority (Lead Agency)
Project Development Process

Five major phases:

- Alternatives Analysis
  - Completed 2003

- Environmental (EIS/EIR)
- Where We Are Now

- Engineering

- Construction
  - Anticipated 2014-2017

- Transit Service

Future Phases
EIS/EIR Process

• **Draft EIS/EIR**
  - Define/refine alternatives
  - Study potential benefits/impacts of alternatives
  - Evaluate measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts
  - Select a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)

• **Final EIS/EIR**
  - Respond to comments received during circulation of Draft EIS/EIR
  - Respond to potential engineering issues
Purpose of Public Scoping

- Initiates NEPA and CEQA environmental clearance process
- Helps refine scope of environmental review by including public feedback on:
  - Proposed Project
  - Project Purpose and Need
  - Alternatives Under Consideration
  - Environmental Issues to be Studied in EIS/EIR
## Project Purpose and Need

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• I-210 cannot accommodate current and forecasted peak-hour travel demand</td>
<td>• Improve transit accessibility to major activity centers along the Gold Line</td>
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<td>• Bus and commuter rail service is limited in the corridor</td>
<td>• Introduce more reliable transit service that shortens travel times</td>
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<td>• The corridor’s arterial network is congested</td>
<td>• Provide an alternative mode for commuters currently using I-210</td>
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<td>• Area population and employment are forecasted to increase, worsening traffic</td>
<td>• Enhance connections to Metrolink, and regional and local buses</td>
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<td>• Encourage mode shifts to transit, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions</td>
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Alternatives to be Studied

• No Build:
  – Study Area in 2035 if Project is not built

• Transportation Systems Management (TSM)
  – Improvement to the No Build featuring a ‘best bus’ alternative, signal synchronization and other non-capital improvements

• Build :
  – Light Rail extension of the planned Gold Line from Azusa (Citrus Ave) to Montclair (Central Ave) and serves six (6) new stations:
    • Glendora
    • San Dimas
    • La Verne
    • Pomona
    • Claremont
    • Montclair
No Build and TSM Alternatives

**No Build Alternative**
- Represents the Study Area in 2035, if the Project is not built
- Includes all existing highway and transit routes, and the committed highway and transit projects specified in:
  - Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
  - Metro 2009 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
  - Includes the Pasadena – Azusa Extension, currently under construction (completion anticipated late 2014)

**TSM Alternative**
- Includes:
  - Intersection improvements
  - Signal synchronization
  - Rapid bus line that resembles service of the Build Alternatives
Build Alternative

- Extends light rail 12.6 miles from Azusa to Montclair
- Operates on two light rail tracks next to freight track along the existing Metro-owned right-of-way, also currently used by Metrolink
- Six new stations in Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont, and Montclair
Build Mode – Light Rail Transit (LRT)

Light Rail Transit (LRT)

• Electrically powered by overhead wires
• Vehicles can be linked together to accommodate up to 500 passengers per 3-car train
• Requires traction power substations every mile along tracks
• Example: Existing Metro Gold Line between Los Angeles and Pasadena
## Environmental Topics

### Environmental Issues to be Studied in EIS/EIR

- Traffic & Circulation
- Land Use & Development
- Real Estate & Acquisitions
- Communities & Neighborhoods
- Visual & Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Noise & Vibration
- Ecosystems & Biological Resources
- Geotechnical/Subsurface/Seismic/Hazardous Materials
- Water Resources
- Energy
- Historical, Archaeological & Paleontological Resources
- Parklands & Community Facilities
- Economic Development & Fiscal
- Safety & Security
- Construction Impacts
- Growth Inducing Impacts
- Environmental Justice
- Climate Change
- Cumulative Impacts

*Did we miss anything?*
## Ways to Provide Comments

### Tonight
- Make a comment during Q&A
- Complete a comment sheet
- Provide comments to the court reporter

### After Tonight
- **Comment by Mail:**
  Lisa Levy Buch  
  Director of Public Affairs  
  Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority  
  406 E. Huntington Drive, Suite 202  
  Monrovia, CA 91016  
- **Comment by Email:**
  llevybuch@foothillextension.org

### Scoping Meetings:
- **Wednesday, January 12, 2011, 6-8 PM** - Ganesha Community Center, 1575 North White Avenue, Pomona
- **Thursday, January 13, 2011, 6-8 PM** - Glendora Teen and Family Center, 241 West Dawson, Glendora
- **Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 6-8 PM** - Oakmont Elementary School, 120 West Green Street, Claremont
- **Thursday, January 20, 2011, 6-8 PM** - Ekstrand Elementary School, 400 North Walnut Avenue, San Dimas

Comments must be postmarked on or before February 2, 2011 to be made part of the Scoping Phase.
Meeting Schedule

- **6:15 - 7:00 p.m.** – Presentation and Opportunity for Comments/Questions

- **7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** – Open House (talk one-on-one with project staff)

Open House - Information Stations:

- Project Overview
- Environmental Review Process
- City/Station Concepts
- Comments
- Court Reporter

Your feedback is important! Please provide your comments before close of the comment period.